

Collectors converge on Chicago for country's largest foreign money show

By Roger Boye

At least 100 coin dealers from nine countries will converge on Chicago later this week for the Chicago International Coin Fair, one of the country's largest annual shows devoted to foreign money.

The dealers will sell their wares in the Regency Ballroom of the Hyatt Regency Hotel, 151 E. Wacker Drive. Sales hours will be 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. next Sunday.

Several hobby organizations—including the Illinois Numismatic Association and the Chicago Coin Club—will meet at the hotel on Saturday in conjunction with the fair. A listing of times and rooms will be available at the CICF registration desk outside the Regency Ballroom.

Also during the fair Stephen R. Taylor of Dover, Del., president

of the American Numismatic Association, will conduct a program for persons under 18 years of age that will include an auction. Youngsters attending will be given play money to bid on items that have been donated by Chicago-area coin dealers and collectors.

The for-youth-only program begins at 3 p.m. Saturday in the hotel's Gold Coast Room on the concourse level of the West Tower.

Stack's, the New York rare-coin company, will conduct an

auction, with sessions beginning at 7 p.m. Friday and 12:30 p.m. Saturday in the Acapulco Room in the West Tower.

Admission is free to all CICF activities, and visitors are invited to attend any session, including the program for youngsters.



Since mid-March Uncle Sam has received thousands of orders from collectors for sets of 1989-dated uncirculated coins.

The government is charging \$7 per set—the same price as last

year—for \$1.82 worth of "spending money" sealed in plastic. Buyers get 10 coins, a cent through half-dollar from both the Denver and Philadelphia mints.

Federal workers mailed order forms during the week of March 13 to persons who have bought products from the mint in recent years. Collectors not on the mailing list can order by sending a check made payable to the United States Mint to the mint's Customer Service Center, 10001 Aerospace Drive, Lanham, Md. 20706.

Meanwhile, Treasury Secretary Nicholas F. Brady has unveiled designs for three types of 1989-dated coins commemorating the bicentennial of the U.S. Congress. Coin production is expected to begin in late spring.

The silver dollar will depict the "Statue of Freedom" on top of the U.S. Capitol; the half-dollar, the head of the statue; and the \$5 gold coin, the Capitol dome. Officials selected the designs following a competition among 11 artists and the U.S. Mint's engraving staff.